



IFW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2584-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Kenji MASUI, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1746  
)  
Application No.: 10/607,976 ) Examiner: Kornakov, Michail  
)  
Filed: June 30, 2003 )  
)  
For: SUBSTRATE CLEANING METHOD )  
AND SUBSTRATE CLEANING )  
APPARATUS )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In the Restriction Requirement mailed January 27, 2005, with a period for response extending to February 28, 2005 (February 27th being a Sunday), the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I (claims 1-14) and Group II (claims 15-20).

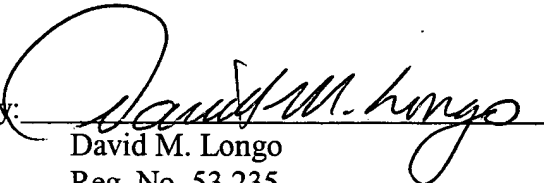
During a telephone conversation with the Examiner, it was pointed out that claims 15-21 are pending in the application. The Examiner requested Applicants file a Response stating the correct claim numbers pending in the application, and a note that the Restriction Requirement is therefore improper. Applicants therefore submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper, and respectfully request a new Office Action from the Examiner.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 28, 2005

By:   
David M. Longo  
Reg. No. 53,235

/direct telephone: (202) 408-4489/